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re to be correct, more skill is required and the staff must be trained. Kitchener is of personal feeling."

AT H. L. SALMON'S.

.....

THE ALLEGED LIBELS

The Case Against Mr. Coltart, of the Province, Produces a Legal Contest.

Mr. Bostock and Mr. Nichol Will Be Proceeded Against Separately.

WEDNESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

In the case of Hewitt Bostock, M.P., Ian Coltart and Walter C. Nichol, charged with having published a defamatory libel on Messrs. J. H. Turner and C. E. Pooley, Mr. Cassidy on behalf of the prosecution said that owing to the fact that Mr. Bostock was out of the city it was impossible to serve him and he therefore asked that his name might be stricken from the information, adding that it was the intention to lay another information against him. Mr. Martin, who appeared for the defendants, said that he wished to call the attention of the court to the fact that one of his clients, Mr. Nichol, had been away from home on business for his employers, and upon his return on the previous Saturday found that the summons in this action had been served upon his chairman, and also called the magistrate's attention to the fact that he (Mr. Martin) had sent down to the court for the purpose of obtaining a copy of the information in this action and was refused; that the original information, which should have been upon the files of the court had been removed, and that, according to the information given him, it was at the time he asked for it in the possession of the solicitors for the prosecution, "and," said Mr. Martin, "I would like to know how it is that when my clients are charged with an offence of this nature and the information is filed, that that document, which is a record of this court, should be removed even temporarily."

The magistrate explained that application had been made to him on the previous afternoon for leave to obtain a copy of this information, for the express purpose of preparing a summons against the absent defendant, Mr. Bostock, and he had given his permission for the original to be removed for that purpose, a courtesy which he would have been willing to have extended to Mr. Martin himself under the circumstances, and if there was any blame to be placed upon anybody it was only upon himself.

Mr. Cassidy, according to Mr. Martin's request, agreed to Mr. Nichol's name being stricken from the information, and the case against Mr. Coltart was taken up, with the understanding that a new information would be laid against Messrs. Bostock and Nichol.

The magistrate was of the opinion that the information as amended would require to be re-sworn by the complainants, but Mr. Cassidy, probably because his clients were not in attendance and Mr. Martin wishing to avoid delay, waived this point, and the information, Messrs. Bostock and Nichol's names being erased, was allowed to stand.

The case against Mr. Coltart, the magistrate, however, not reading the information, was then proceeded with, and Mr. Arthur Davey was called as a witness by Mr. Cassidy.

After being sworn the witness testified that he was an aged clerk in Mr. Cassidy's office and resided on Burnside avenue.

Examined by Mr. Cassidy.
Q.—I hand to you what purports to be a copy of the Province newspaper of Saturday, December 11th, 1897. When did you first get that? A.—I purchased this on December 10th instant from Mr. Arthur Wheeler in the office of the Province newspaper.

Q.—Do you know who Arthur Wheeler is, then? A.—I cannot say that I know; I believe I have known him to be employed there some time, but I cannot say in what position.

Q.—Do you know if he was employed there then? A.—Yes.

Q.—(By the Court)—An employee of the Province Publishing Company? A.—Yes.

Mr. Cassidy—Do you know Mr. Coltart? A.—I know him; yes.

Q.—Do you know what his occupation is? A.—I can't say that I do.

Q.—Do you know where he works, that is, where he carries on business? A.—I have seen him working in the Province building.

Q.—Do you know his signature? A.—I do not.

Q.—Have you seen it? A.—I have seen what purports to be his signature.

Q.—On what? A.—On letters purporting to come from him.

Q.—Have you ever delivered to Mr. Coltart? A.—I don't think so; I don't remember having done so.

Mr. Cassidy (showing letter to witness)—Do you know this letter? A.—Yes.

Mr. Martin (interposing)—What letter is that? A.—A letter from me to Mr. Coltart.

Mr. Martin—If it has any relevance here it should have been shown to me.

Mr. Cassidy—It is a typewritten copy of a letter written by me to Mr. Coltart and I wish to show from Mr. Davey's evidence that that letter was delivered to Mr. Coltart in order to prove that the signature upon the letter received in reply is Mr. Coltart's signature.

Something like half an hour was occupied by an attempt on the part of counsel for the prosecution to prove the signature of Mr. Coltart, in spite of the contention by defendant's counsel that a secondary evidence was not admissible when it was possible to procure evidence of a positive nature, and notwithstanding the magistrate's ruling that the evidence offered could not be accepted, Mr. Cassidy persisted in endeavoring to prove Mr. Coltart's signature by the evidence of his clerk.

It was not made clear what object counsel for the prosecution had in this course of procedure, but it is to be presumed from the lengthy argument indulged in and the persistency with which Mr. Cassidy continued to endeavor to obtain from his witness an admission that he knew and could identify Mr. Coltart's signature, that something could have been gained by it for the prosecution. His honor, however, finally compelled Mr. Cassidy to subside by telling him that as Mr. Coltart had been in business here for a number of years and that hundreds of people in the city would of their own knowledge know his signature it was foolish to endeavor to prove his genuineness by a witness who under

oath had repeatedly said he did not know it.

Mr. Cassidy then proceeded to ask the witness if he knew what duties Mr. Coltart followed at the time of the publication of the alleged libel, but when in answer to Mr. Davey's question that he did not know that Mr. Coltart had anything to do with the Province newspaper, this line of examination was abruptly closed.

In cross-examination by Mr. Martin the witness testified that he had purchased a copy of the Province newspaper of December 11th on the 10th December, had taken it to Mr. Cassidy's office and placed upon it a mark of identification, but could not remember the time, although he was positive that he immediately after purchasing it he had taken it to his own office and could now recognize it as the one produced in court. Arthur Wheeler was then called by the prosecution, and testified that he was a clerk in the office of the Province Publishing Company, his duties being those of assistant to the foreman.

Mr. Cassidy proceeded to examine the witness and insinuated that the two companies, the Province, Ltd., and the Province Publishing Company, were separate only for certain purposes. Mr. Martin objected to the insinuation and a lively interchange of banter was indulged in, Mr. Cassidy making use of the expression that "these people were highly displeased together," and asking Mr. Martin for enlightenment as to what the difference was between the two, that if he wished information he must ask for it.

Mr. Martin proceeding with an examination of the witness elicited the information that the Province newspaper was published from the Province building; that the Province building was situated on the corner of Courtney and Gordon streets; that he (the witness) sometimes saw it printed; that he sometimes did it, and that Mr. Walter Nichol was known in the office as the acting editor. Endeavoring to find out what Mr. Coltart's position was, Mr. Martin learned from the witness that he is secretary of the Province, Ltd., Ltd.; that as a rule he (Mr. Coltart) occupied a room in the building; that he sometimes dictated letters, and that as far as the witness knew there was nobody who, in Mr. Cassidy's language, acted as a boss over him.

In cross-examination by Mr. Martin the witness repeated that he knew nothing of the Province, Ltd., Ltd., as far as his position was concerned, which gave Mr. Cassidy the opportunity of firing off a remark in regard to "double-barreled companies."

Mr. S. Y. Woolton, registrar-general, and registrar of joint stock companies, was the next witness, but the evidence which counsel for the prosecution sought to obtain from him was limited. Mr. Martin admitted that the Province, Ltd., Ltd., are the publishers of the Province newspaper. The witness testified that a copy of the register of the company had been filed with him on the 11th November, 1897, and then began a protracted legal argument, in the course of which Mr. Cassidy quoted from various authorities in the attempt to prove that secondary evidence could be accepted by the court, because he had failed to obtain what Mr. Martin claimed was necessary, the best evidence.

To-day's proceedings will be found in another part of the paper.

THE SCALCHI ENGAGEMENT.

Famous Contralto to Appear at the Victoria Theatre This Evening.

The only adequate performance of grand opera Victorians are likely to have this season will be given at the Victoria Theatre this evening by Madame Scalchi and her company of operatic artists. Scalchi is one of the greatest artists in her profession the world has seen. She is the famous contralto who shared honors with Patti until that singer became jealous, and since then Scalchi has been the great attraction of all the ideal performances given in London and New York. Mme. Scalchi has been more in demand than any operatic singer in Europe or America, and she has the distinction of having sung before more people than any singer on the lyric stage. For ten years she alternated between St. Petersburg, London and New York, hardly missing one month of the whole year and constantly singing at the various opera houses of the two continents.

Scalchi is the only contralto who is complete mistress of the florid and highly dramatic school; she sings the difficult music of Arsace (Berlioz), as well as the heavy and deep notes that fall to the lot of Amleto (Verdi) and Aida (Verdi). She excels, however, in the grand operatic "bells," which have become of the best music in the entire operatic works allotted to them. No one has ever approached Scalchi in singing and acting the role of Siebel (Faust), Frederick (Mignon), Urbino (Huguenot), Orsino (Lucia di Lammermoor), Oscar (Masked Ball), Cherubino (Marriage of Figaro), etc. Scalchi's voice is strong and full, and of noble quality. Calve has taken the great Scalchi as her model, hence her success. Associated with Mme. Scalchi is Mlle. Tonlinguet, the coming dramatic soprano of the operatic world. Last season she created a furore by her superb singing. Besides the two artists mentioned, the tenor and baritone, Sig. Guarini and Sig. Alberti, are operatic celebrities. In the operatic part of the entertainment, which consists of the fourth act of Il Trovatore, given in full costume, the principal parts will be sung by Mme. Scalchi, Mlle. Tonlinguet, Mlle. du Bedat and Mr. Thomas McQueen. The first part of the programme is made up of miscellaneous pieces, in which each of the singers mentioned will sing a favorite selection.

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OUR MINISTRY.

The Toronto Globe's Powerful Arrangement of the Turner Ministry.

What This Province Has Suffered and Lost Since Present Government Came Into Power.

The following article upon the history of the Turner government is from the editorial columns of the Toronto Globe. A few days ago we published a telegraphic excerpt from this article, but the arrangement of the government by the Globe is so just and so powerful that we reproduce the whole article for our readers may see in what light political affairs are viewed by the eastern press. The article is headed "A Ministerial Failure," and is as follows:

British Columbia has suffered from a most unfortunate provincial regime, and it is to be hoped the electors will see the advantage of making a change when the opportunity arrives. The ministry seems to have been afflicted with a violent desire to give away, on every pretext, the mineral and forest wealth which should serve the purposes of public revenue for generations to come. Great mineral wealth has been alienated indiscriminately, and the real developers of the future will be paying rents and royalties to the fortunate recipients instead of to the whole people. The Cassiar Central railway grants are but an illustration, perhaps the most striking, of ministerial disregard for public interests. By Mr. Herschel Cohen, a gentleman from London, England, will be in a position to levy a royalty on the output of a large section of mining land. But there are charges more serious in one sense than incompetency against the present ministry. Mr. J. H. Turner, premier, and Mr. C. E. Pooley, president of the council, figure as the leading men in a mining company that has issued a prospectus and is seeking to sell shares in London. In that prospectus it is actually set forth that there will be advantages for the shareholders in the "unique connection" between the company and the provincial ministry. This abuse of a high position could not escape the British press. The Times, Truth, the Statist, the Financial News and other leading journals strongly condemned the unprecedented use of official authority and the publishing declaration of it.

status of British Columbia, and it, in fact, the whole Dominion, must have suffered through that most questionable method of selling mining shares. The Liberals of the province have formulated a platform which declares against the leading lines of policy which have given the existing ministry such unenviable distinction. It condemns the alienation of public lands to railway companies, and proposes to restrict the holding of large areas. Grants to railway corporations for aid in construction are favored only in the principle of investments in the railways, the government to secure its interest by the control of rates. The Liberals also declare their intention to investigate the status of existing grants, to the end that as much of the remaining land as possible be offered for settlement.

Chinese immigration is a vexed question in the province, as it must be wherever the Orientals gather in large numbers. There is a strong opinion in favor of their exclusion, but there is a corporate influence dominating the ministry in support of the importation of such labor. The Liberals have declared positively against it. The land grant to the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway is another instance of generosity with the people's property. The terms of the grant gave the company their land in alternate sections in opposite sides of the line, a section given the company to be opposite a section retained by the province. Without consulting the legislature the ministry by order in council altered the terms so as to give the company a large area of territory extending on both sides of the line. The tax on mortgages is merely an instance of incompetence. It has had the natural result of increasing the burdens of the borrower and is condemned by the wise revenue measure by the Liberals.

The un-Liberal requirement of a deposit from candidates for the legislature and the inequalities of representation for the counties are matters of reform. The requirement of miners' license fees from wage earners in the mines is a sample of the mistaken means of revenue generally adopted after the reckless alienation of public resources, and is condemned in the Liberal platform.

But this ministry can show itself resourceful on occasion. It is building a house of assembly, which, of course, could not be finished within measurable distance of the time specified. A glass plate has been provided—setting forth to future generations the completion of the work under Lieut.-Governor Dewdney. When it became evident that Mr. Dewdney's term would expire long before the glass plate could fill its mission there was a situation which might have puzzled an ordinary administration. But the rulers of British Columbia rose to the occasion by holding a "formal opening" before completion. The opening was indeed formal, for it consisted in the distribution of letters announcing that the Lieut.-Governor would be at home in the building at a certain day. They did not state on what particular matter or for what purpose the party would perch, whether they would cling to a ladder or balance on a window sill. The formal opening was an unqualified success, and the workmen on the building never suspected that it was under way. In this record of absurdity, incompetence and worse there is a lesson which the electors of Ontario should take well to heart. Whether in Dominion or provincial affairs, Conservative rule has been marked by the reckless alienation of the public domain. Immense wealth in timber and minerals can be in that way squandered in a single month. An order in council or vote forced by a party majority may entail irreparable injury. The mistake of a single election may bring the very material penitence of heavy taxation for years. The lesson is obvious and should be thoroughly learned.

A SOCIETY BURGLAR.

San Francisco, Dec. 22.—Charles W. Elkins, who made his escape from a Los Angeles Deputy Sheriff on a north bound train, Monday morning, near Fresno, is a son of a well-known banker of New Haven, Conn. He came to the Pacific Coast about two years ago and engaged in the real estate business in Los Angeles. He was popular and was admitted into the best society. Soon after his appearance in that city, many burglaries were committed among the aristocratic residents. Houses were entered at midnight and jewelry abstracted. The thefts were finally traced to Elkins and he was arrested on five charges of burglary. He pleaded guilty to one charge and was sentenced to five years to San Quentin. On the way there he made his escape by jumping from a car window and is still at liberty.

POLITICAL EXECUTIONS IN GUATEMALA.

San Francisco, Dec. 22.—News has reached this city of the shooting in Guatemala of a number of political prisoners, including two men who are known all over the Central American republic. The execution occurred last month at Huehuetenango. The principal victim was Capt. Heroniano Ruiz, brother-in-law of Gen. Daniel Fuentes, now in this city.

A third victim was the Hondurian Colonel, Francisco Zelaya. He was accused of aiding the revolutionary party and was executed by order of Barrios, the command being carried out by Gen. Luis Molina. Three other prominent Guatemalans suffered death in the same manner, including Licencio Marcello de Leon, a lawyer, and Elias Androski. It is estimated that there are now in Guatemalan prisons no less than 229 prisoners of the late revolutionary war.

DAMAGE BY FROST.

Los Angeles, Dec. 22.—The orange and lemon crops of Southern California have been injured by frost during a succession of cold nights. The fact that oranges do not show the effect of the frost for from two weeks to a month after the cold weather, renders the extent of the damage even to the growers of the fruit very uncertain.

SHUN THE SLIMY OYSTER.

Chicago Gets Home Pretty Bad Bivalves. If this Man Is Right.

The oyster may be likened to a diamond mine. There are millions in it—millions of microbes. The innocent looking creature is the depository of filth. Death lurks in its entrails, only waiting a favorable opportunity to "get in its work" and join hands with the undertaker in final ceremonies.

The oyster for some good reason has not been endowed with very much intelligence, but, nevertheless, it is somewhat choice in selecting its daily fare. It regales itself with the slime and ooze of the ocean bed and takes delight in wiping them from the submarine foliage with its gelatinous lips. It swells with eager expectancy, with open shell and parted lips, for the delicate morsel of edulia that may chance to come that way from some neighboring sewer and devours it with as much relish as does a turkey buzzard a dead cat in a backfield.

This creature is rather a complex organism. Two large lateral lips overhang the mouth. It has an internal track, kidney, heart, gills, nervous ganglia and a liver that constitutes nearly one-half of the bulk of the body. The reason why the liver is so large is obvious. The function of the oyster is strictly that of a scavenger. It flourishes upon the offal of the ocean at the mouth of rivers where they pour their filth into the sea. This diet, as notorious in character, so deadly in fact, has given the mollusk an extraordinary large liver, which is kept working incessantly to extract the poisons from the impending death, for the function of the liver is to destroy poisons. As the diet is full of poisons, of decomposed organic matter, its stomach at once becomes the habitation of every foul and hateful germ, and is utterly unfit for the human stomach; for nature, common sense and science teach us that the human stomach was never intended to be a burying-ground for the scavenger.

The oyster has a way of getting even with his consumers by infecting them with disease. Scientific research has proved that the oyster is infected with cancer and typhoid germs, which inhabit its stomach and intestines for a week at a time. Moreover, cases of typhoid fever can be traced directly to the oyster. In some recent investigations as many as 300,000 deadly germs have been found in 50 drops of oyster juice. It is singular that intelligent men and women who are capable of selecting a wholesome diet from the elaborate provisions of nature's storehouse still will indulge in the slimy practice, and one that is fraught with so much danger, it seems that even the creatures should be enough to produce nausea and to cause one to turn away from such a slimy dish.

It almost fills one with horror to see a "delicate woman, who would not adventure to set the heel of her foot upon the ground for delicateness and tenderness, step into a cafe and order a dozen small oysters on the shell, and proceed to swallow them, all and kicking with absolute indifference to the thought that at each gulp millions upon millions of dangerous and dirty microbes are swooping down into the stomach. As Prof. Huxley says: "When the rapid and slippery morsel, which is gorged with a flash of gustatory summer lightning, glides along the palate, few people imagine that they are swallowing a host of machinery and going machinery, too, greatly more complicated than a watch."

Now, if people will insist on making a suppers of their stomachs for the burial of these scavengers, they ought to insist on this thing on the part of the operator.

1. That it wipe its mouth with a napkin. 2. That it clean its teeth with a brush. 3. That it all a large three times a day.—Dr. Magee in the Chicago Record.

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All communications intended for publication should be addressed "Editor of the Times," Victoria, B. C.

THE CASSIAR CENTRAL.

However much the Colonist may feel inclined to chuckle over the intentions of Mr. H. Hirschel-Cohen regarding the Cassiar Central Railway, we cannot see our way to join in these intonations. Mr. H. Hirschel-Cohen is the English capitalist who is going to make, along with his fellow directors, a magnificent thing out of this Cassiar Central Railway scheme. And no blame to Mr. Hirschel-Cohen and his fellow directors. But we cannot forget the circumstances under which the Cassiar Central Railway grant was made; we cannot forget the storm of indignation that hailed the atrocious blunder. If it was a blunder, and we are of the opinion that the people of British Columbia will long regret the blindness, or worse, of the government which recklessly gave away a franchise that means millions. The Colonist has extremely small cause to emit these gleeful chirrupings; for the Cassiar Central Railway deal is one of the blackest names in the political history of British Columbia, and will be one of the hardest of the many hard things the members of the Turner government will be asked ere long by the people of the province to explain.

A GLANDERS SCARE.

For some time back a quarantine has been extended over the Kettle River district by the advice and direction of Dr. Hickenbottom, veterinary surgeon of Grand Forks, B. C., against horses from Marcus, just across the line in Washington State. This has caused no little friction among the traders who use that route to get to the mines with their pack trains. To reach Eureka, Nelson and other places in the Colville reservation it is necessary for freighters to pass from American to Canadian territory, then back again to American ground. The Grand Forks Minister says the quarantine has been so drastic as to cause a shortage of food supplies in the towns which depend upon the freighters for their goods. It is feared by the people dwelling north of the boundary line that the result of this may be that the American government will construct a wagon road entirely in American territory and so deprive the British Columbians in the Kettle River district of their share of the packing trade. A curious phase of the trouble is the opposing testimony of the veterinary surgeons directly connected with the matter. Dr. Hickenbottom, the Canadian veterinarian, stoutly sticks to his statement that he has found glandered horses at Marcus, Grand Forks and Greenwood, and that the disease is spreading. With equal positiveness the American veterinarian, Dr. Nelson, asserts that there is no glanders, declaring that he has examined over 70 horses at Marcus and found no symptoms of glanders. He is now in Grand Forks trying to persuade Dr. Hickenbottom to raise the quarantine. "Who shall decide when doctors disagree?" Meanwhile the unfortunate public are impatiently waiting to see what will be done. A less rigorous quarantine, it is generally believed, would meet the case well enough. It will be interesting to learn the upshot of this remarkable dispute, and we hope for the sake of the Boundary people that a settlement may be reached before permanent damage is done to the trade. Of course, any sacrifice is permissible that will keep such a terrible scourge as glanders out of the province; but it is a hardship to maintain rigorous quarantine after it has been proved that the danger is over.

"May the day be long distant when Nelson bids will again be bought for thirty dollars," says the Nelson Miner. "Not until it sinks back into the pitiful condition of a deserted mining town is that likely to happen, and that day is many years off." By the sale on Wednesday last the government practically ceases to be one of the owners of Nelson, but the C. P. R. still owns a large portion of the town. A hopeful circumstance in the sale was the purchase of a central town lot at a price equal to \$125 per foot frontage. That being so Nelson is not ready for the blues just yet; such a price betokens confidence, which begets business, which means life to the town.

A good point is made by the Grand Forks Miner in drawing the attention of Boundary Creek district people to the urgent necessity of keeping a sharp eye on doings at James Bay during the coming session. The Miner says:

"The sending of a delegate to Victoria during the session of the legislature to look after the interests of this section should not be lost sight of. There are

a number of questions to come before the session that will have to do with the future of the Boundary district, and the people of this section cannot afford to have any legislation passed that will be a detriment to them."

Mr. Kellie, M.P.P. for the North Riding of West Kootenay, "is now practically dead," says the quaint Roseland Miner, taking liberties with the language. The Miner had that comparison of dead, practically dead, dander, deader, printed before the "sins in the face" took place at Revelstoke, when three hundred electors confirmed Mr. Kellie's attitude, demanded that he keep his seat and that he represent them as an oppositionist. The Roseland Miner will feel as shrunk into its boots as the Colonist and the World and the other organs when it reads that Revelstoke story. Mr. Kellie is very much alive.

That the Toronto Board of Trade has joined hands with the B. C. Board of Trade in the stand the latter has taken with regard to the Dyre dispute and the passage of Canadian goods through American territory, is the best refutation of the oft-repeated assertion that the people of the Eastern Provinces take no interest in Western affairs. Those who make that assertion are not in touch with affairs in the east or they would refrain from such foolish remarks. The telegraphic despatch announcing the foregoing fact will be found in another column.

For once the Colonist is correct; the absence of our usual editorial heading last evening, to which the Colonist with characteristic good taste draws attention, was due, as the Colonist kindly says, to one of those little accidents from which the immortal gods have not made even the always-right Colonist immune. When the Colonist dishes up anything that is as palatable only "pi" we shall remark to ourselves after Whitcomb Riley: "Ain't got nuthin' to say; nuthin' 't all to say."

The Columbian, dealing with the ludicrous "attack" of the Vancouver War-rid upon the Toronto Globe, reminding one of the Aesopian fables of the frog and the bull and the fly on the axle, joins the "life-long Liberal" thusly in the same spot as the pullet sustained the hatchet:

"The Globe can probably stand the World's scorn, especially when that scorn, all the circumstances considered, will the more commend it to the favor of the people of this province, to whose interests it is much more true and faithful, even in matters regarding our local politics, than the World, a provincial paper, has ever been."

In the midst of all those wars and rumors of wars it is pleasant to have the solemn affidavit of Mons. Charles Rauhoffer, the chef at Delmonico's celebrated restaurant in New York, that live cod is the delicacy of the season. Mons. Rauhoffer assures an anxious universe that "the only fresh cod for the epicurean to consider is the live fish. When it dies it loses its flavor so rapidly that it soon becomes tasteless." Many other maitres de cuisine would give a good deal to know where the Delmonico man got the notion. The spectacle of a 250 pound gourmet attempting to swallow a live cod with egg sauce would go far to promote the gaiety of nations.

Scotch whisky made in Germany and sold in India is the latest. Great quantities of the delinquent stuff have been detected by the customs department and seized. Upon examination the alleged "Scotch whisky" was found to be a decoction of fusel oil and other contraband of war sufficient to make the partaker see snakes in running brooks and serpents in stones. This shows Germany's enterprise, however, though that certainly is no excuse for the undoubted profanity which will ring from Simla to the Ghauts when the navy gets a mouthful of the stuff thinking they are going to enjoy a nip of the real "peppercorn mountain dew."

VICTORIA'S FLIGHT.

To the Editor:—The longer I live in Victoria the more I am imbued with a sense of our utter carelessness as to the appearance of our streets, and our apparent helplessness to prevent their being made eyesores. A number of men have been engaged the past few days digging holes and setting up poles along Government street, just as though that thoroughfare were not crowded enough already with poles of every thickness and length. I understand that these latest obstructions are intended for the car service. If the city authorities are incompetent to prevent this disgraceful state of things I shall have no other recourse for the community. Should the car company not be compelled to use the large poles already set up by the telephone company? Just take a look along our principal street, and I am sure you will lend your pen in agitating against this encroachment on our rights. After the act of vandalism in destroying the ornamental trees in the government grounds, this decorating our streets with insupportable sticks is quite atrocious.

CHIEF.
The Duchess of York is the only British Princess who has come upon her name to a foreign town. Mayville, near Roulogne, was christened after the future Queen Consort.

For Xmas presents—Feather boas, handkerchiefs, kid gloves, umbrellas, at the Lansdowne House, 80 Yates street, John Partridge.

For Xmas presents—Dress patterns, no two alike, at the Lansdowne House, 80 Yates street, John Partridge.

Windsor Salt
For sale at 25c per bushel
At all Grocers and Dealers

STORY OF THE RESCUE

Dominion Government Steamer Quadra and Steamer Willapa Back From West Coast.

Chief Officer Durfee Tells of His Crew's Sufferings in the Open Boat.

It Is the Metallic Boat, in Which Capt. Hall Had Lost Confidence, That Is Missing.

All hope for the safety of the eight men who left the steamer Cleveland in the second officer's boat was abandoned upon the arrival last evening of the Dominion government steamer Quadra and later in the night of the steamer Willapa. The Quadra cruised as far north as 110° west, where the third officer's boat was found, but officers making a thorough search, but not a vestige of the missing boat or the men who set sail in her could be found. The Willapa went still further north, as far as 120° west, and all along the coast made inquiries of the Indians and settlers, but her search was unavailing. The boat was undoubtedly overwhelmed by the sea and the occupants drowned.

The Quadra brought down the survivors of the disaster, with the exception of Capt. Hall, Third Officer Melvin and one or two others who were well enough to remain and could be of assistance in lightening the cargo and helping in the attempt which is to be made to float the steamer. The Maude is receiving the cargo, and when it is all out Capt. Walbran of the Quadra, does not think the owners will have any trouble in floating her. There is a big hole in the ship's forward hold, but when the cargo has been taken out this can be temporarily patched and the steamer towed to the sandy beach at Anderson's Camp, where repairs can be made which will enable her to proceed to Victoria. Capt. Metcalf representing the insurance people, and Mr. Tyson, for the owners, are remaining at the wreck, and as soon as the cargo is out the Quadra, which they have chartered, will attempt to pull the Cleveland off.

The trial of the Indians charged with looting the Cleveland was conducted before Captain Walbran sitting as a stipendiary magistrate, on Monday and Tuesday last. Six Indians who concealed stolen property were sentenced to terms of from one to six months, the others, including the white man McCarthy, being severely reprimanded. All speak very highly of the way in which Captain Walbran and his officers performed their duties.

MR. DUFFEE'S STORY.

The First Officer Tells of His Experience After Leaving the Steamer.

S. P. Durfee, first officer of the wrecked steamer Cleveland, arrived on the Quadra, and with Second Engineer O'Neil, Carpenter Ishister, Fireman Cawley, Seaman Falkner, and W. S. Dietrick, a passenger, was taken to the marine hospital for treatment. While sitting by the fire in the hospital yesterday evening, warming his badly swollen feet, he told of the terrible experience of his boat's crew after leaving the wrecked steamer.

"It was early in the morning of Friday, December 10th, about two o'clock, I think, when, after drifting about with a broken shaft for several days, we were all but on Starlight reef, one of the worst of the bad reefs of the coast. Captain Hall, when we were within 150 feet of the reef, gave up hope, and so did we all, for not a man on board ever thought she would clear the reef. The boats were lowered, and with the captain's boat leading, we rowed towards Alpha passage. The night was dark, and we could hear the roar of the breakers ahead. The captain's boat was some distance ahead of the other boats and we were cautiously following him. After slowly feeling our way towards the breakers in the hope of getting through them and making a landing, we were given to understand by Third Officer H. Melvin that Captain Hall's boat had been speared in the breakers. I immediately turned my boat's head towards the open sea, and telling Melvin to follow, we fought our way seawards in the face of the strong winds blowing on shore. We heard afterwards of how Capt. Hall and his crew got safely through the breakers, and made a landing in Alpha passage, and we heard that he had signalled us to follow him, but as I knew he would have it we never saw the signal.

"Then began our long drift in the open boat. We lost Melvin and his boat soon after putting to sea. It was a terrible time, and as long as I live I shall never forget that five days and a half. How we suffered; the boat was half full of water all the time, for the seas were beating over us, and had we not worked continually to keep her head towards the heavy seas, we must have been swamped. It was the same day after day, but the men bore up bravely, and suffered most stoically. The cold was almost unbearable, but notwithstanding their blistered hands and feet, as they were long immersion, the men talked on hour after hour. My clothes and those of the others were wet from the time we left the wreck until long after we had made a landing at Raphael Point. I guess we shall have many reminders of our terrible adventures in the way of rheumatic pains and pains in our joints for days to come.

"On Monday, the 15th inst., the awful ordeal proved too much for one of the boat's crew, George Carillo. He sank down in the boat from cold and exhaustion, and long before the end came it was easy to see that he was dying. About twenty minutes before he died he became very delirious and mumbled considerably; although what he was saying no one could understand, for his voice was never raised above a whisper. His death was quite painless.

"The remainder of the boat's crew

Outfitting for Klondyke

WILSON BROS.

Have the best goods obtainable for money, and are ready to sell them at a reasonable profit. We have had a large experience in this business, and it will pay you to call on us.

Nos. 8 and 10 Yates St., Victoria.

Only Another Day Left in which to Select Xmas Gifts.

CALL AND EXAMINE
MY CHOICE STOCK.

Gold, Silver and Filled Watches, Rings, Brooches, Bracelets, Necklets, etc. Walking Canes, Ladies' & Gents' Umbrellas. Silver Brushes, Mirrors, Combs, Ebony Brushes and Mirrors (Silver M'd). Ivory and Fancy Wood Brushes, Pens, Bill Books, Letter Cases, Card C's. Clear and Cigarette Cases, Fountain Pens, Mantle Clocks, Fancy Clocks, Silver Plate and Sterling Novelties.

E. ROBINSON, Jeweller, 37 Fort St., Next Clay's.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

APPRECIATED BY FATHER OR MOTHER, A PAIR OF

GOLD SPECTACLES

Prices very low for good goods. Glasses will be exchanged to suit free of charge after the holidays.

OPERA GLASSES, FIELD GLASSES, TELESCOPES.

The largest stock in British Columbia at the lowest prices.

F. W. NOLTE & CO., OPTICIANS, 37 FORT STREET.

PUZZLED
PEOPLE
PERCEIVE

OUR CHOICE AND USEFUL
Ladies' Companions
Carvers,
Scissors Sets,
Table Cutlery,
Razor Sets,
Manicure Sets,
Shaving Sets and
Materials.

GOOD
XMAS
GIFTS

LADIES', GENTS', BOYS' AND GIRLS' POCKET KNIVES

At No. 78 Government Street.

FOX'S

N. B. — Cases of best quality only.

were scarcely able to move, so badly had the exposure worn them out. It was some time before they thought of giving the dead man a sailor's burial. At length, however, a few of the crew arose, and lifting the body of the dead waiter gently, they consigned it to the angry sea. Before this time it was noticed that the provisions were looking very small and the rations—we had already been on short rations for some time—were again cut down. After another day and a half buffeting about the seas, during which time our feet and hands seemed devoid of feeling, they were badly blistered and swollen and seemed as dead members, we again bore in towards the coast and found a place where it looked as if a landing could be effected. We at once pulled in, but the progress was slow, for our strength was almost gone. We were, however, strong enough to get through the surf and breakers, and soon were lying stretched out on the beach.

"I at once gathered some driftwood and built a fire. Then I got the carpenter to cut my boots off, so badly were my feet swollen that I could not get them off whole. The others were obliged to do the same, and soon we were all lying around the fire warming our half-frozen bodies. No sooner did I begin to feel the warmth than my feet began to swell more than ever, and it seemed that if the swelling did not stop they would burst. As soon as we were warmed somewhat we went foraging for ourselves and claims, for the provisions were nearly gone. While we were foraging we found a Siwash dog, and lost no time in catching it and tying it up, for when the mussels and other things gave out—well, dog steaks would be relished.

"For three days we were camped on the beach suffering the most excruciating pain from our swollen limbs. Some of the men's feet had by this time broken out, and we were just about despairing when the Dominion steamer Quadra was sighted, and a boat from her came and took us from our camp on Raphael Point. Our camp fire, we afterwards found out, had been seen by some Indians, who had informed Father Brabant, their priest, and by his order informed Captain Walbran, who lost no time in coming to the rescue.

"We found Third Officer Melvin and his boat's crew on the Quadra. They had been picked up at Hesquiat, which point they made on Saturday, December 11th, the day following that on which they left the steamer. They made a safe landing at Hesquiat, where they camped until the Quadra, being apprised of their whereabouts, rescued them. Although they suffered severely during the thirty hours they spent at sea, they soon recovered, and now all are well, and those who came down on the Quadra are walking about the streets.

"The second officer's boat, which, like the third officer's, followed us to sea and afterwards lost us, has never been seen.

VICTORIA THEATRE

One Night Only, Thursday, Dec. 23

Grand Opera

MME. SOFIA SCALCHI

The World's Greatest Contralto.

Assisted by the following famous Artists.

Mlle. Maria Toulouquet.

The renowned prima donna soprano, Mlle. Du Bedat, mezzo soprano, late of the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Co. Mr. Thomas McQueen, tenor, late of the International Opera Co. Signor Aschilli Alberti, baritone, late of Imperial Opera Co. Signor C. Garro, accompanist.

Presenting the 4th Act of Verdi's Il Traviata, to be preceded by a musical farcical opera.

Prices: \$2, \$1.50 and \$1; Gallery, 50c.

Seats on sale at Jamieson's.

Seats on sale at Jamieson's.

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WANTS.

YOUNG MAN Experienced in office duties desires position; references. Address: B. Victoria Times.

WANTED—Boy about 15 years. Apply to Brown, 23 Work street, near.

GARDENER WANTED—in January. Apply by letter, with references as to character and experience, to Bishop's Close, Victoria, B. C.

HOUSE WANTED—With purchase a house and lot if price and terms are satisfactory. House must have not less than ten rooms, with all modern conveniences and be well situated. Address, with particulars, "Business," Times office.

WAITER'S Short Black Coat, all sizes. Gilmore & McCandless. Oct 23-17

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—A two-story house on Broughton street, to be removed at once. Apply Victoria Transfer Co., Ltd., 23 Broughton street. Oct 23-17

FOR SALE—My farm at Boundary Bay, near Ladner, 1000 acres choice land, part upland and part bottom land, now run as a dairy farm, with cream separator, cattle and implements, will be sold cheap on blue at separate. Apply to Wm. McDowell, on the premises. Oct 23-17

FOR SALE—220 acres in South Cowichan, excellent water frontage on Satellite Channel. Two lots running from Rae street to Church street, Victoria. Easy terms. Apply to S. Perry, M.P.A., Victoria, B. C. Dec 2-17

FOR SALE—House and vacant lots and business property, also farms and farm land. Call to examine our list before purchasing. A. W. More & Co., Real Estate Agents, 80 Government St. Dec 1-17

FOR SALE—Good sheep run on Cortes Island; excellent landing on property. Price—moderate. Apply Alex. Phillips, Auctioneer, St. James street. Dec 1-17

FOR SALE—The fixtures, furniture and stock of the Hall Saloon, Fort street. Immediate possession given. Apply to W. W. Barnett, on the premises, or to Wm. Harrison, 61 and 63 Johnson street. Aug 12-17

TO LET.

TO LET—Furnished room, suitable for single gent. Near Pandora car. Apply F. M. Box 284, City. Nov 27-17

TO LET—The Commercial Hotel, Douglas street. Apply H. Porter & Sons, Douglas street.

AMUSEMENTS.

DON'T FORGET the Military Social dance at Drill Hall on Wednesday next. Tickets, gentlemen \$1, ladies 50c, each to be obtained of Messrs. Gilling, 821 Major Mulebay, at Drill Hall, at Hilda's Government street, or at the door Wednesday night.

LOST AND FOUND.

LOST—In the Cathedral schoolroom on Race and Blanchard streets, a diamond brooch. Finder will be suitably rewarded on returning to this office. Dec 1-17

WOOD AND COAL.

VICTORIA WOOD AND COAL YARD, corner Government and Discovery. All kinds of fuel for sale at lowest current rates. Your order solicited. Delivery free. Also steam wood sawing done. Telephone No. 140. A. C. Howe. July 6

MISCELLANEOUS.

NOTICE—Sir Charles Hubbert Tupper and Mr. Peters have removed a temporary office over those of Mr. Cassidy, No. 52 Langley street. e-o-d

MRS. DR. C. C. CHAMBERS, the celebrated clairvoyant and medium, Brunswick Hotel, Room 1.

MONEY TO LOAN on first-class mortgages, repayable either in a lump sum or in a fixed number of easy monthly payments, from \$1 to \$12,500. Apply to M. A. C. mortgage brokers, 80 Government street.

MRS. HOWES, Test Medium, 124 Douglas street. Do you wish to know if you will succeed in the Klondike, or in business, or in your love affairs, consult her. She predicted the unsuccessful return of the steamer Bristol and has located a large number of missing claimants in the United States and British Columbia. Readings from \$1 up. Hours from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

USE ADVERT FLOUR—a pure, fine whole wheat flour. Mrs. R. Hunt, Rockland Avenue, sole agent. Orders taken at Speed Bros' grocery. Dec 1-17

JOHN MAXWELL, DECEASED—All persons having claims or demands on the estate of John Maxwell, late of Burge Bay, Salt Spring Island, B. C., are requested to send the particulars to James Maxwell, of Burge Bay, Salt Spring Island, or Mr. James Lunnay of the same place, the executors. And all persons indebted to the estate are also requested to pay such debts to one of the executors above named. Dated 27th Nov., 1897. Rodwell, Irving & Duff, solicitors for executors, 2 Broughton St., Victoria, B. C. Nov 27-17

NOTICE OF REMOVAL—Dr. Frank Hall has removed to his new address, building No. 103 Yates street, just above Douglas street. Nov 23-17

A. & W. WILSON, PLUMBERS AND GAS FITTERS, Bell Hangers and Tinsmiths. Dealers in best descriptions of Heating and Cooking Stoves, Ranges, etc. Shipping and supplying at lowest rates. Broad street, Victoria, B. C. Telephone call 130.

VETERINARY.

S. F. TOLMIE, VETERINARY SURGEON—Graduate Vet. Col. Member Ont. Vet. Med. Soc. Office at Bishop's Close, 100 Johnson street. Telephone 187; residence telephone 417; calls promptly attended to day or night. Victoria, B. C.

SCAVENGERS.

JULIUS WEST, GENERAL SCAVENGER, successor to John Dougherty. Yards and compounds cleaned, contracts made for removing earth, etc. All orders left with James Fell & Co., Fort street, groceries; John Cochran, cor. Yates and Douglas streets, will be promptly attended to. Residence, 50 Vancouver street. Telephone, 130.

PIANO TUNER.

GIDEON HICKS, who has changed his headquarters from Vancouver to Victoria, will attend promptly to orders left at "R. N. Hickson & Co." Address care Box 2, 211-213, No. 6 Springfield Avenue, Victoria West.

MONEY TO LOAN ON MORTGAGE.

Improved Real Estate, security plan or interest and principal, payable monthly. Swinerton & Oddy.

105 COVENANT STREET.

MONEY LOANED

Xmas Perfumes
At Bowes' Drug Store,
100 Government Street.

LOCAL NEWS.

Cleanings of City and Provincial News in a Condensed Form.

For Xmas presents—Children's fur sets at the Bandstand House, 86 Yates street. John Partridge.

Glassware just received and for sale cheap for cash at H. A. Brown & Co.'s 80 Douglas street.

Jackets, dress goods and hats at greatly reduced prices. The Sterling, 88 Yates street. Open every evening until Christmas.

You want a treat. Try the Queen's mince pie, made from the recipe of the Queen's chef and manufactured by Her Majesty's chef, prepared by O'Neil & Morris.

J. Horner & Co. are giving away a present with every purchase of one dollar and over for this week. Fans, purses, boys' and men's ties, boys' handkerchiefs, etc. Argyle House.

On the occasion of the grand military ball last week, there was a large attendance at the dance given by the First Battalion in the drill hall last evening. The decorations had been retained, as well as the dancing floor.

James J. Corbett's western tour will begin at St. Paul in February and extend as far as San Francisco, his native home, at which place he will be seen the latter part of March. He will also visit Victoria. His tour closing at Denver early in May.

Meers, R. B. McKicking and J. W. Fleming have returned from their lecturing tour through the eastern states, made in the interest of Victoria's Klondike trade. Mr. McKicking lectured in all the large cities, his lectures being illustrated by Mr. Fleming.

The children of the First Presbyterian and Centennial Methodist churches held their annual treats last evening. At the First Presbyterian church the pupils sang an appropriate cantata, under the supervision of Mrs. C. A. Clark. A concert was also given at Centennial church, previous to the distribution of prizes.

The closing of Miss Green's kindergarten, which took place yesterday afternoon, was a perfect success. The finger-plays and songs by some 25 children showed how well Miss Green, Miss Lowe and Miss Worlock have worked for the past three months.

At the meeting of Victoria Lodge, No. 1, A.O.U.W., last evening, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: M. W., Bro. Grizell; F. Bro. F. Partridge; O. Bro. J. Smith; Recorder, Bro. R. Dunn; Treasurer, Bro. F. Dwyer; Receiver, Bro. R. T. Williams.

The premises at the corner of Broughton and Government streets, occupied by E. M. Johnson, have been secured for the Victoria office of Molson's bank. Officers will be elected immediately and the bank will be ready for business by February 1st. It is also stated that the Imperial bank intends to open a branch in Victoria.

Mr. Robert O. Wilson and Miss Florence Annie Graham, eldest daughter of Mr. Walter Graham, of 187 Chatham street, were married last evening by Rev. P. G. L. Harris. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Clara Graham, Mr. John M. McGregor attending the bridegroom. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson will spend their honeymoon in Vancouver.

The fourth installment of the annual house tax refund has been received by the honorary treasurer of the Protestant Orphans' Home from the following: through Mr. Charles Kent: Geo. Glover, \$1; Mrs. M. Glover, 42 cents; J. P. H. Brown, 33 cents; Ashdown H. Green, \$1.62; Mrs. Baxter, 50 cents; C. S. Baxter, \$1.13; F. W. Vincent, \$2.42; Mrs. Anne Scott, \$1.25; total, \$10.27. Also from the children of the North Ward public school, per Principal McNeil, \$7.45.

Lovers of the artistic should not fail to see the windows of Geo. H. Jackson, 57 Government street. Here is displayed in the most attractive style in which this firm displays its choice goods, the most attractive collection of nobly up-to-date neckwear, fancy bordered silk handkerchiefs the newest and which this firm has ever imported. Several of these lines have just arrived to-day and are shown for the first time in Victoria. Those seeking presents should undoubtedly see this firm's special lines of motto and other neckwear, sold only by them, before purchasing presents.

This week we offer at cost ladies' jackets, waterproofs and wrappers. John Partridge, Lansdowne House, 88 Yates street.

As good as the name—the "Nugget" cigar. J. C. Meiss & Co.

Hotel Victoria, Victoria, strictly first-class. Rates \$2 upwards.

Christmas books, albums, etc., at wholesale prices. Johnston Kirk block.

—CODFISH—Genuine Newfoundland, at R. H. Jackson's, 33 Fort street, Red Front Store.

Queen's mince pie, as prepared by Her Majesty's chef, prepared by O'Neil & Morris.

The Sir William Wallace Society will elect officers at the annual meeting to be held this evening.

The first rehearsal of "The Geisha," to be presented by amateurs under the management of Mr. A. Aspland, took place last evening.

The Sterling is now showing a full line of Christmas novelties at very reasonable prices. Open every evening until Christmas, 88 Yates street.

The first rehearsal of "The Geisha," Sydney Jones' well known opera, which is shortly to be played here by a company of Victoria's leading amateurs, was held yesterday evening.

Pabst Bohemian, from Milwaukee, the finest beer the world ever produced, on draught at 5 cents per glass at the Bank Exchange, the cosiest, cleanest, cheapest restaurant in the city. Never closes.

J. A. Harvey, of Fort Steele; Frederick Elliott, of Nelson; and A. MacNish and W. H. McHarg, of Rosland, were called and admitted to the bar this afternoon. They were introduced by Sir H. P. P. Crease and were sworn in before Mr. Justice Walker.

Messrs. Porter & Sons have undertaken to attend to the delivery of presents for the Protestant Orphans' Home Christmas tree and Christmas dinner, which takes place on Thursday next. Donors leaving their presents at the firm's stores at the corner of Johnson and Douglas streets can be assured of the safe delivery of the articles.

Mrs. Elliott, wife of W. A. Elliott, of Cadboro Bay Road, died this morning at the age of 72 years and six months. The deceased lady came to Victoria in 1889, arriving here in January of that year on the steamer Labouchere, of which her husband was engineer, and which was wrecked some years later between Victoria and San Francisco. One month more and Mrs. Elliott would have celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding. The funeral will take place on Sunday at 1:30 p.m. from the family residence and an hour later at the R. E. Church.

SHIPPING NEWS.

The Happenings of a Day Along the Water Front.

The steamer Willapa returned from the west coast early this morning, bringing back with her a number of sealing captives, some mining men from Clayoquot and San Juan and a few storekeepers and others who make periodical visits to the capital. She kept a close watch continually for the missing boat from the Cleveland, but no sign of her was to be seen or no news of her whereabouts was to be had. The sealing men were not very fortunate in obtaining crews, for the Siwashese, as of old, are holding out for more than the sealing men are willing to pay. Many siwashese, however, promised to join the schooners, although very few would sign articles. The passengers on the Willapa were: From Kysquut—Captains Seward, McLean, Alcock, Meyer and Jordan; from Nootka—Capt. Dawson; from Clayoquot—J. Mosow, G. Dawley, P. J. Wallace, E. Johnson, W. A. and J. Young; from Ucluelet and Barclay Sound—A. Sinclair, Capt. Martin, Mr. Douglas and Captain John Irving; from Alberni—Mr. Aspland; and from Renfrew—L. Kirkpatrick and W. J. Dwyer. She had a light cargo, the principal consignments being a few boxes of furs and six drums and four barrels of dog fish oil. The Willapa left for Telegraph Bay this afternoon with supplies for the powder works.

Many carpenters and other artisans are hard at work on the C.P.N. steamer Danube preparing her for her service between Victoria and St. Michaels next summer. She is being fitted up with extra staterooms, the majority of which are being built on deck outside. When all the new cabins and bunks are completed she will be able to accommodate over 200 passengers. New fresh water tanks are being placed in her hold; new kitchens and galleys are being built and everything is being done to make her a first class passenger steamer. When the alterations and repairs are completed the Danube will be one of the best passenger steamers in this service.

The steamer City of Seattle arrived this afternoon after a rough yet swift trip from the river at the head of Lybil Canal and from Juneau and Wrangell. She sailed from Skagway on Sunday afternoon, bringing in all 25 passengers, three of whom are the latest arrivals from Dawson City. All say that there is work for everyone at Dyea and Skagway, on the road to the railroads and tramways being built there in preparation for the spring travel. Men are still going in by way of the Dyea trail and up the lakes and rivers, all of which are frozen except for a few miles at the southern end of Lake Bennett. The Seattle left for the Sound at 3:30 p.m.

The American ship Colusa, Captain Ewart, sailed yesterday from Chemainus with 950,000 feet of lumber for Port Pirie, Australia.

The best line of high grade silk cushions at Weller Bros. Also many fancy articles.

FOR XMAS.

Toilet Cases,
Manicure Cases,
Mirrors,
Ebony Hair Brushes,

Roger & Gallet's Perfumes

American Perfumes

SEE OUR WINDOW.

JOHN COCHRANE,
CHEMIST,

Northwest Corner of Yates and Douglas Streets

THE LIBEL SUITS.

Further Proceedings in the Police Court Yesterday.

Mr. Cassidy finding himself unable to convince the court that the evidence of Mr. Wootton would be sufficient, asked for an adjournment, stating that he had more witnesses to examine and that it would be impossible for him to finish the case that day. Mr. Martin said his clients had been in court all day waiting until the afternoon for their case to be called. Mr. Cassidy had occupied much time in transmitting his private business. Mr. Martin asked that if it were possible to finish the case that the court should do so, but an adjournment was taken until Wednesday at 2 p.m.

On Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock the case was proceeded with, Mr. Wootton's evidence being continued. The witness produced the memorandum of association and copy of the register of directors of the Province, Ltd., Ltd., filed with him as registrar, under section 89 of the companies' act. Mr. Martin claimed that the mere production of these documents was not sufficient evidence, questioning Mr. Wootton's right to bring such public documents into court, and having brought them objecting to having them left as evidence in the usual way.

Mr. Cassidy quoted from Taylor on evidence to show the court that the evidence was admissible, and Mr. Martin's objection was over-ruled. Mr. Wootton then proved the incorporation of the Province, Ltd., Ltd., on 9th January, 1895, the memorandum of association, appearing in the Gazette the same month; the Province Publishing Company was incorporated 10th September, 1896, and the memorandum of association was duly published in that month's Gazette. A copy of the register of directors of the Province, Ltd., Ltd., had been filed with the witness and was produced, and although Mr. Martin objected most emphatically to its acceptance as evidence, his honor ruled it was admissible. The register, a copy of which was filed November 11th, 1897, showed that the directors were A. H. Scaife, journalist; Ian Coltart, accountant, secretary; and Hewitt Bestock, capitalist. A copy of the register of the Province Publishing Company, Ltd., Ltd., was also produced and objected to by Mr. Martin on the same grounds. Objection over-ruled. The copy filed November 11th, 1897, showed that the directors were Hewitt Bestock, capitalist; Ian Coltart, accountant, managing director; and L. B. Willsie, printer.

Cross-examined by Mr. Martin. Q.—Who filed this with you? A.—I think you did. Q.—Oh! think again. A.—I think so. Q.—You never saw me there? A.—Well, I think it was filed on behalf of your firm. Mr. Martin—Oh! you should be careful.

Mr. Clive Phillip Wolley was the next witness and testified that he is a barrister residing at Oak Bay. The witness was examined by Mr. Cassidy. Q.—Do you know the Province Publishing Company? A.—I do. Q.—Have you been connected with that company? A.—I have. Q.—What was the nature of your connection? A.—I acted, gratis, for Mr. Scaife, the editor, during his absence. Q.—Do you know who controls the printing and publishing of that paper, the Province? A.—What do you mean by control? Q.—If you were asked who was the "boss" who would you say was the head of it. Who is in apparent control? Mr. Martin objected to the expression "apparent control" as too vague and indefinite.

Mr. Cassidy amended his question and Mr. Wolley finally said that as far as what appeared in the paper while he acted as editor he had control himself, subject to the directors, but Mr. Coltart acted as one thing. During that time Mr. Bestock and Mr. Coltart acted as directors, and he would, if he bet on the matter, wager that Mr. Scaife was also a director.

Charles Lawrence Cullen, foreman of the Province Publishing Company, was the next witness and testified that he recognized the article in the Province of December 11th, which was the subject of this case, and that the article was "set up" by the printing operator, Mr. Ditchburn; but he did not know in whose handwriting the M.S. was. Asked if he exercised any special discretion in regard to this particular copy, witness said he did not know then there was any particular copy, and he presumed the whole article was "set up" as usual by the same man who always "set up" that portion of the paper. The Province Publishing

For Him

Buy him a New Hat, and every other thing that you think of, and thank his lucky stars that that wife of his had sense enough to buy a sensible present. We've got a lot of a hat, with every kind of a right price. Just give us how much you want to pay, then COME IN AND LOOK AROUND.

Cameron,

The Cash Clothier,
55 Johnson Street

Company printed the Province newspaper for the Province, Ltd., Ltd., charging for it so much per copy, the same as they would for any other outside company. He (witness) looked to Mr. Coltart as manager of the Province Publishing Company for his orders and took none from anyone else. He presumed that Mr. Walter Nichol was the editor of the Province, although he did not know of his own knowledge.

Mr. Martin, in addressing the court for the defence, opened his argument by stating that two points must be established by the prosecution in order to secure the conviction of the defendant. First, that the matter complained of is a libel, and second, that the publication has been brought home to the defendant. Not only so, but in addition to proving publication, it is necessary that it be shown that the charges or statements in the article were untrue. "Not one word of evidence," continued Mr. Martin, "has been adduced to prove that the statements complained of are false. This prosecution must fail because it has not been shown that the libel is false; they have utterly failed to prove there is no foundation for the statements complained of and if those statements are true, then there is no libel."

The court informed Mr. Martin that the case would not be thrown out on the grounds urged, namely, that it was not claimed by the prosecution the statements complained of were not true, as the court was of the opinion that it was not necessary for the prosecution to do more than they had already done. Mr. Martin then proceeded to argue that the publication of the alleged libel had not been brought home to the defendant, and in reply his honor said he would like to look carefully into the memorandum of association, which had been produced, and suggested that an adjournment might be necessary to enable him to do this. Mr. Martin continued his address, and brought out that there had been no evidence to prove the defendant either knew of or authorized the publication of what was now alleged to be a libel, and particularly that no proof that the defendant had been in legal phraseology is called "an evil mind" had been given. The attempt to commit the two companies to prove, as Mr. Cassidy had expressed it, "that there had been an attempt on the part of the Province, Ltd., Ltd., to take shelter under the name of another company," had utterly failed. The two companies were distinct and separate, and from the evidence of the witnesses who had been examined it was clear the Province Publishing Company simply printed a newspaper for another company. "And," said Mr. Martin, "in any case other than one of this nature it would be possible for the defendant to go into the box and testify that in the action, he is accused of, he was justified by the fact that what was said to be a crime was not so; that he would be entitled to prove that the charges made in the article were in substance and in fact true; in this case it is not open for us to do so; but there is, therefore, all the more reason your lordship should protect us and guard against any injustice being done us. Has it been shown that the defendant knew of the publication? Has it been shown that he was responsible for its publication, and, again, has any attempt been made to prove that the alleged libel was false?" Mr. Cassidy said the words "defamatory libel" included the charge of falsity, and his honor intimated that subject to anything which might be adduced as evidence on behalf of the accused he had decided to send the case for trial. Mr. Coltart was then asked by the court the usual formal questions, and said he believed he was to give evidence. It being 5 p.m., the court suggested an adjournment should be taken, and by consent the case stood over until 10 a.m. on Thursday.

A visit to Weller Bros during Xmas week is the treat of the season; verify this.

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The most suitable things for Xmas presents. Just what you have been looking for. Novelties in Neckwear; fine Hats, Gloves, Scarfs, etc., etc. Just in by express—50 doz. Neckwear and consignment of Hats in newest styles.

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Leading Goods' Furnisher,
55 Douglas Street,
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COLUMBIA FLOURING MILLS CO. BRANDS:

Hungarian, Premier, ★★★★★

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Silver Toilet Articles.



Those dainty necessities for my lady's bureau or dressing table, just the things for HOLIDAY PRESENTS, at prices that make the purchaser enquire if they are really Sterling Silver. They are made from the finest of Sterling Silver, after the latest patterns.

C. E. REDFERN,

45 Government St.

That Boy of Yours

—To Say Nothing of Papa's GIRL

Wants, above all else, something interesting and amusing at this joyous Xmas season. Have Santa Claus make a selection from our stock of

Mechanical Toys.

We have got the newest, best and most complete stock of Toys in the city. No old stock—everything bright and new. Prices lower than the lowest. Give us a call.

... DON'T FORGET THE ADDRESS ...

A. BARKER, 88 1-2 Douglas Street.

CLEARING SALE

NOW TILL XMAS.
A LARGE STOCK TO
SELECT FROM.
BARGAINS FOR CASH

Waltham Watches, Nickel Cases	\$6.00
Elgin Watches, Nickel Cases	6.00
Dunbar Watches, Nickel Cases	6.00
Waterbury Watches, Nickel Cases, (only short wind kept)	2.00
WARRANTED FIVE YEARS.	
Waltham Watches, in Gold Filled Cases	\$7.00
Elgin Watches, in Gold Filled Cases	7.00
Dunbar Watches, in Gold Filled Cases	7.00
WARRANTED FIVE YEARS.	
Sold Gold Ladies' Waltham Watches, closed cases, from	\$21.00
Sold Gold Elgin	21.00
Sold Gold Filled, warranted 50 years	15.00
Gold Filled, warranted 15 years	10.00

S. A. Stoddard, 65 Yates Street.

Raphael Tuck's Calendars and Booklets

Have arrived at last and are selling like hot cakes. Come in and see them.

DON'T FORGET That we close on the 31st of December.

That now is the time to buy your Office Supplies.

JAMIESON,

BOOKS AND STATIONERY,
61 GOVERNMENT STREET

A Slipper Sale.

This is the season we push our stock of Slippers before your notice. We have all kinds for the Home and Ballroom in Plush, Crochet, Patent Leather, Kid and Satin.

A. B. ERSKINE, Corner Government and Johnson Streets.

2 - NIGHTS ONLY - 2

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MANSELL'S No. 95 GOVERNMENT STREET

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VICTORIA, B.C., and Dyea, Juneau, Sitka, Skagway, Wrangell and intermediate points.

E. E. BLACKWOOD, Agent. Reside in the city on Broughton Street, near the corner of

Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair, Gold Medal, Midwinter Fair.
DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER

A Pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder.

40 YEARS THE STANDARD.

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Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.



ROYAL BAKING POWDER
Absolutely Pure

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

11th, the day the Cleveland was abandoned. She was then in tow of First Officer Durfee's boat. The first officer was trying to put up a sail, but the mast carried away. It was then necessary to let go the line between the boats. The second officer's boat was soon lost sight of, and as she could not stand the weather that the others encountered she must have foundered very shortly. The men in the missing boat are:

L. E. F. Henderson, second mate.
W. Monroe, steward.
John Gallagher, fireman.
Walter Davis, cook.
Hendrick Danielson, seaman.
Alfred Kolning, seaman.
John Foster, seaman.
Bert Larsen, seaman.

REV. FATHER BRABANT.

What He and His Wards Did for the Shipwrecked Sailors.

In an interview with Rev. Father Brabant at his mission at Hesquet the venerable gentleman gave the following details of the efforts made by himself and his Indians to succor the crew of the Cleveland:

December 11th at 11 a.m. the first boat in charge of Mr. Melvin landed and were promptly cared for. The crew of Mr. Melvin's boat report that they were separated from another boat about twenty miles from this place.

December 15th.—Weather having become more settled I sent a canoe with some Indians to Claypoint Sound, instructing them to have C.P.N. steamer call here for the crew now with me and to keep a good lookout for the other boat above referred to, as there is no doubt the men are on one of the uninhabited islands, and sorely in need of help before they perish of cold and misery.

16th.—At nightfall a light was sighted across the bay some ten miles off. I picked a crew of seven stalwart Indians and sent them out in the cold and stormy night.

17th. (a.m.)—Indians return from a useless search, the light having proved to be a camp fire of prospectors.

17th. (evening).—The canoe I sent out



Fifty Years Ago.

President Polk in the White House chair, while in Lowell was Doctor Ayer. Both were busy for human weal. One to govern and one to heal. And, as a president's power of will sometimes depends on a liver-pill, Mr. Polk took Ayer's Pills I know for his liver, 20 years ago.

Ayer's Cathartic Pills

were designed to supply a model purgative to people who had so long injured themselves with griping medicines. Being carefully prepared and their ingredients adjusted to the exact necessities of the bowels and liver, their popularity was instantaneous. That this popularity has been maintained is well marked in the medal awarded these pills at the World's Fair 1893.

10 Years of Cures.

On the 15th has just arrived with the glad news that they sighted the boat landed up on Rafael Point and that some, if not all, are saved is evidenced by the fact that they saw a fire burning. The sea, however, was running so high that the Indians could not land. The Dominion government steamer Quadra arrived in our bay, and in the meantime I dispatched a note to Commander Walbran with various suggestions as to where to land safely to reach the survivors, which if followed may lead to their timely succor.

BIRTH.

WILSON.—In this city, on the 19th inst., the wife of Edward Wilson, of No. 30 San Juan Avenue, of a daughter.

DIED.

ELLIOTT.—At the family residence, Gashoro Bay Road, on the 23rd instant, Elizabeth, the beloved wife of W. A. Elliott, a native of Bristol, Kent, England; aged 72 years and six months. The funeral will take place on Sunday at 1:30 p.m. from the residence as above, and at the Reformed Episcopal Church at 2:30 p.m. Friends will please accept this intimation.



There is a standing joke about the cigars ladies buy to give to their gentlemen friends for Xmas. Ladies who buy cigars from us may depend on the quality of the goods we sell them. Good cigars are what you want and good cigars are what we sell you.

Capstan Navy,
30c. and 15c. per tin.

T & B Plug,
25c. Full size plug.

High Life Cigarettes,
3 packages for 25c.

Durham Bull,
2-oz. Bag, 20c.

Morris,

Leading Tobacconist,
Government St., Victoria.

The Proprietor Having Decided to go to the...

Klondike

In January, the whole of the large and well selected stock of

HATS and GENTS' FURNISHINGS

will be ABSOLUTELY sold at cost. AS THIS IS BONA FIDE, AN INSPECTION IS INVITED.

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Wholesale Grocers and Importers.
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Every Miner should have the "Lamb" Eye Shade. We are



SOLE AGENTS FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA.

We carry the largest stock of Groceries in the Province.

All goods sold by us will be carefully put up in packages suitable for transportation on boats, sleighs or pack animals. We are sole agents for the best

Patent Portable Yukon House and Camp Bed.

Both the latest invention, and are prepared to sell them at reasonable prices. All papers for free entry of outfit into the Klondike required by customs authorities prepared by us free of charge.

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LENZ & LEISER.

Wholesale Importers of...

Men's Furnishings and Foreign and Domestic Dry Goods.

LARGEST STOCK WEST OF TORONTO

MINERS' OUTFITS

—A SPECIALTY—

Nos. 9 and 11 YATES STREET.

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Walter S. Fraser & Co.

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MARVIN & TILTON,

Wholesale and Retail Hardware Merchants

KLONDIKE and MINING OUTFITS

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Telephone 3,
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SHERIFF'S SALE OF DRY GOODS

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THE CITY HOUSE

This Sale will be Continued Until the End of the Year Only.

A 50 per Cent. Reduction on all Goods Except Gloves.

DO YOU NEED A

NEW DRESS

\$1.50 Values at	-	-	75c.
1.25 " "	-	-	62½c.
1.00 " "	-	-	50c.
.75 " "	-	-	37½c.
.50 " "	-	-	25c.

STILL A FEW ENDS OF

SILKS FOR BLOUSES

ALL AT HALF PRICE.

CORSETS

An article every lady requires.

P. D., \$ 50 Quality	-	-	\$.75.
" \$1.90 "	-	-	.95.
" \$2.00 "	-	-	\$1.00.
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" \$1.90 "	-	-	.95.

C. P., Magnetic, Izods, etc., etc., all at half price. Curtains, Sheetings, Pillows, Cottons, Quilts, etc.

PEWNEY'S

KID GLOVES

Regular \$1.00 Quality	-	-	75c.
" 1.25 "	-	-	\$1.00
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Handkerchiefs, Hosiery,
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And in fact everything suitable and useful for a Christmas gift.

Received from London To-Day—Linen Hem-stitched and Embroidered Handkerchiefs—Something Choice.